

Message Text

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R 181451Z APR 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 076153

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 076153 SENT ACTION LONDON,
APRIL 15TH:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 076153

E.O: 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, IO, UK
SUBJECT: US-UK DISCUSSIONS ON INDIAN OCEAN AREA

1. WILBERFORCE, POLITICAL MILITARY COUNSELOR OF BRITISH
EMBASSY, EXTENDED INVITATION LAST WEEK FROM JOHN THOMSON,
FCO, FOR US TO SEND SMALL TEAM TO LONDON DURING WEEK OF
MAY 6 FOR TALKS ON THE BROAD INDIAN OCEAN AREA. AS EMBASSY
KNOWS THIS INVITATION IS BASED ON BRITISH AGREEMENT IN
PRINCIPLE TO DIEGO EXPANSION PLANS AND OUR WILLINGNESS AS
PART OF THAT AGREEMENT TO ENGAGE IN PERIODIC CONSULTATIONS
ON OUR MUTUAL OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN
AREA.

2. WE HAVE INFORMED BRITISH HERE THAT WE ACCEPT INVITATION
AND EMBASSY MAY WISH TO REITERATE OUR ACCEPTANCE. US TEAM
WILL BE HEADED BY SEYMOUR WEISS, DIRECTOR, POLITICO-MILITARY
AFFAIRS. TENTATIVE PLANS ARE FOR TEAM TO BE ROUNDED OUT BY
THREE REPRESENTATIVES FROM DEPARTMENT (PM AND INR) AND TWO
FROM DOD (ISA AND JOINT STAFF). IDENTIFICATION OF US PAR-
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TICIPANTS AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS WILL BE

PROVIDED BY SUBSEQUENT MESSAGE.

3. WE HAVE DEVELOPED FOLLOWING DRAFT AGENDA ON BASIS OF STODDART DISCUSSIONS WITH THOMSON AND JACKSON IN FEBRUARY AND WITH WILBERFORCE LAST WEEK. REQUEST THAT YOU PROVIDE

FCO AND LET US HAVE THEIR COMMENTS SOONEST TO PERMIT ORDERLY DEVELOPMENT OF AGENDA AND BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR TALKS.

I. US AND UK INTERESTS AND OBJECTIVES IN AREA.

II. ASSESSMENT OF THIRD COUNTRY ACTIVITY AND INTENTIONS, CURRENT AND ESTIMATED, IN THE INDIAN OCEAN AREA:

- A) SOVIET,
- B) PRC,
- C) OTHER NON-LITTORAL,
- D) REGIONAL.

III. US AND UK DEFENSE COMMITMENTS, FACILITIES CURRENT OR PLANNED DEPLOYMENT OF MILITARY FORCES AND MILITARY RELATED ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA.

IV. THE INDIAN OCEAN PEACE ZONE AND ARMS LIMITATIONS.

V. SCOPE FOR FUTURE US-UK COORDINATION AND COOPERATION.

VI. CONCLUDING STATEMENTS AND PROVISION FOR NEXT MEETING. RUSH

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